10th December 1954]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have already stated that if financial conditions permit we shall certainly look into the case of these persons who are very low-paid officials now."

Supply of electricity to Ponnani taluk, Malabar.

* 182 *Q.*—SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government had any consultation with the Government of Travancore-Cochin State regarding the supply of electricity from Travancore-Cochin State to Ponnani taluk, Malabar district?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Negotiations are proceeding for entering into an agreement with the Travancore-Cochin Government to purchase electric energy in bulk from that Government for distribution in the Chowghat and Guruvayoor areas in the Ponnani taluk, Malabar district."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, the Hon. Minister stated that negotiations are going on with the Government of Travancore-Cochin for bulk purchase of electricity for extending electricity to these areas. The Nattika Firka Producers'-*cum*-Consumers' Society has requested for the supply of electricity to Nattika Firka and promised that they are prepared to supply the same. Further, it will be easy to extend electricity from villages like Irinjalakuda and Cranganore to Nattika firka. Will the Government see that negotiations are conducted so as to extend electricity to Nattika Firka also? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Once we get the bulk supply we can think of distributing electricity to nearby areas."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" If there is to be long delay in extending electricity to the whole of the taluk, will the Government at least consider erecting transmission lines on both the banks of the river since the Travancore-Cochin State has brought the lines to the banks of the river so that it may help the farmers in irrigating their lands? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Sir, we have got to get the power before we can extend the lines to the banks of the river."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" When the agreement is reached with the Travancore-Cochin State, will this Government be pleased to see that Tiruttala firka is also included in the distribution of electricity? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I would request the hon. Member to make a representation in this regard. I will certainly consider his representation when the negotiations are completed."